LLOYD E. LEVINE MIN REWSELLE ASSEMBLYMEMBER • 40TH DISTRICT

VOLUME 1, NO 1

2,500 KIDS ATTEND LEVINE'S FITNESS CHALLENGE

AN OPPORTUNITY FOR FAMILY FUN AND HEALTH

The bad news is 45% of our children are overweight. The good news is there are a lot of exciting ways to begin tackling this crisis. For example, Assemblymember Lloyd Levine has begun working to address the problem through the "Lloyd Levine Fitness Challenge." Levine's awareness of the problem, and life long interest in healthy living, inspired him to begin a free community walk to promote the importance of exercise while supporting schools. Levine's Fitness Challenge is a 5k walk/run intended to persuade children to get excited about their health. The event encourages the entire family to exercise together, and proves that getting exercise can also be a lot of fun.

The event was promoted to schools throughout the Los Angeles area. As an incentive, schools that recruited 50 or more students to participate in the challenge received money to support fitness related activities, with an additional grand prize to the school with the highest percentage of attendees.

The most recent "Lloyd Levine Fitness Challenge" took place on April 30th, 2005 at the Warner Center Park in Woodland Hills. Over 2,500 kids, teachers, and parents attended, along with special guests Olympic Gold Medalist Quincy Watts, Dr. Suda of Kaiser Permanente, Ryan Benson of ABC's "The Biggest Loser," and, of course, Assemblymember Lloyd Levine. Additionally, Kaiser Permanente provided free t-shirts and bracelets to all participants, further proving their commitment to healthy living.

The next "Fitness Challenge" will take place on October 15th, 2005. Come join Assemblymember Lloyd Levine and help encourage the health of our community's youth. (To participate or to find out more information visit www.fitnesschallengeinfo.com)

Health Tip of the Month:

Planned Inefficiency-examples include...

Park far away from the entrance to a store, carry items upstairs individually, answer the telephone in the room furthest from you, and don't use the remote





ASSEMBLYMEMBER LEVINE DEFENDS WOMEN'S ACCESS TO CONTRACEPTIVES

A.B. 21- WOMEN'S CONTRACEPTIVE AND PHARMACEUTICAL FREEDOM ACT

In recent months, birth control has been denied to women on the basis of pharmacists' personal beliefs. Assemblymember Lloyd Levine has proposed a bill that would require pharmacies to supply medication to those with valid prescriptions. The bill would help protect the rights of all Californians who rely on pharmacists for needed medication. No pharmacist would be forced to supply the medication against their will, but a pharmacy would have to find another means of getting the medication to the patient. The bill has been approved by the Assembly and is waiting for Senate approval.

LEVINE LEADS THE CHARGE ON SOLAR ENERGY & REUSABLE SOURCES

All Californians are well aware of the energy crisis that has been plaguing our state for the past several years. Utility rates have skyrocketed and rolling blackouts have affected the entire state's economy. The experts agree that the solution is to have California begin generating more electricity. Fortunately, Assemblymember Lloyd Levine has proposed three bills to meet this requirement.

First, California relies too heavily on electricity produced outside of the state. A.B. 1362 would require utilities to produce at least 20% of their electricity from renewable power sources in state by 2010. Currently, the 20% target will not take effect until 2017. By speeding up the requirement by seven years, the state will be able to resolve its energy crisis in a much timelier manner. The 20% requirement is already in place in both Massachusetts and Texas, putting those states at a competitive advantage over California.

Levine's second bill to address the energy issue is A.B. 1547. This bill would encourage the production of more electricity at times when it is least available and most expensive. It will establish a rebate program to award those who install grid connected photovoltaic solar energy systems. Under this proposal, as the demand for electricity is at its highest, individuals with solar panels on their homes would be pumping surplus energy into the grid, alleviating the strain on the utilities.

Lastly, Levine has worked to end the energy crisis through A.B. 67. In 2000-2001, the State of California had to purchase energy for bankrupt electrical companies. When this occurred, energy rates soared. To help avoid a similar situation in the future, Levine proposed a bill to force California Public Utilities Commission to provide a ten year forecast, with annual updates, to help predict electricity prices. By helping the state plan ahead for issues on the horizon, A.B. 67 will put the state in a better position to face California's energy demands well into the future.

CONSERVATION TIPS

- 1. Turn up the thermostat- Try setting it for 75° instead of 70°
- 2. Close your blinds- Keep the sun's added heat out
- 3. Install Energy-Star ceiling fans- They use less energy than the air conditioner
- 4. Use appliances wisely
- 5. Turn off unneeded lights
- 6. Use lighting, air conditioning, and major appliances after 7pm
- 7. Sign up for the "Flex your Power NOW!" alert



TO SIGN UP FOR OR TO GET MORE INFORMATION ON FLEX YOUR POWER NOW...
PLEASE VISIT WWW.FYPOWER.ORG/NOW

COMMUNITY SPOTLIGHT: VAN NUYS

Recently, the restored Van Nuys City Hall was completed and celebrated. \$22 million were spent to provide the new building with air conditioning, plumbing, electrical work, and second floor council chambers for 370 people. The Hall is symbolic of the Valley's importance, a scale down replica of downtown's City Hall.

The building has been used as the home base for many civil services in Van Nuys History. The construction began in 2003, and was finished recently. Students from local schools gathered to provide entertainment and celebrate the buildings opening. It is a place for people to get to "know their Van Nuys."

COMMUNITY GROUP HIGHLIGHT

On May 27th, Assemblymember Lloyd Levine with partnered ONEgeneration, а non-profit intergenerational organization, to hold the 2005 Senior Faire. The event was organized for people in the community to learn about and experience some of the different programs offered by ONEgeneration. Many seniors and their families attended in order to speak to vendors and health care professionals. They learned about many legislative issues affecting seniors today, and visited education booths for information on health services and plans, safety issues, and living wills. The event was a great success. A Senior Community Services Guide is now available to the public, to provide information on sources for help to assist you or a family member when needed.

(To get a guide, contact Tracey Pomerance-Poirier at (818) 904-3840)

Upcoming Community Events

-Go to the 2005 series of Concerts in the Park at Warner Center Park in Woodland Hills. The concerts are free and take place from 6-8pm.

- > August 7th: Young Dubliners, an Irish Rock Band
- > August 14th: Air National Guard of the Southwest, a 40-piece orchestra of Air National Guardsmen playing patriotic tunes, swing music, and favorites from the Big Band
- August 21st: The Knack, playing their hit *My Sharona* and many new releases
- > August 28th: Herman's Hermits, starring Peter Noone; and Tickets to Ride, a Beatles Tribute Band (For more information visit www.valleycultural.org)

If you would like to see your community event in this newsletter, please contact Crystal Strait at (916) 319-2040.

ASK LLOYD A QUESTION

Assemblymember Levine, what is the best part of your job?

"The best part of my job is the opportunity that it brings to meet some of the most interesting and diverse people in the state and community. I have the chance to come in contact with so many members of the community and get involved in the wonderful things they are doing. I am able to be a part of the wonderful team that works to move California forward, and makes a true difference in the lives of all its citizens."

If you have a question for Assemblymember Lloyd Levine, please e-mail it to Assemblymember.Levine@assembly.ca.gov and make "Ask Lloyd" the subject line. You may see the answer in our next newsletter.

For more information please contact: Communications Director: Crystal Strait at (916) 319-2040 Editor / High School Intern: Amanda Deutchman at (818) 904-3840